

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-2 and 4-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Nonaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,614,732). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Nonaka and Proehl et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,118,450). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over Nonaka and Proehl for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...a record medium holding...a play list file menu file of storing a play list file menu which is information of selecting a predetermined play list file of said plurality of play list files....

This feature is found in the originally filed application at page 20, lines 17-22. No new matter has been added.

Nonaka discloses a recording and reproducing apparatus. The recording and reproducing apparatus relevantly includes a hard disc 20 and a display portion 24. The recording and reproducing apparatus is configured to prepare play lists. However, the play lists are managed by hard disc 20. In Applicants' invention, on the other hand, play lists may be managed by play list file menus that are held on the record medium. The play list file menus include information of selecting a predetermined play list file of a plurality of play list files held on the record medium. Accordingly, Nonaka does not disclose all features of amended claim 1.

It is because Applicants include the feature of a record medium holding a play list file menu file of storing a play list file menu which is information of selecting a predetermined play list file of said plurality of play list files, that the following advantages are achieved. Namely, play list files stored on a record medium may be easily managed according to a file held on the record medium.

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Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 5, 7, 8, and 10-12, while not identical to claim 1, include features similar to claim 1. Accordingly, claims 5, 7, 9 and 10-12 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 2-4 include all the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Claim 6 includes all the features of claim 5 from which it depends. Claim 9 includes all the features of claim 8 from which it depends. Claims 13 and 16 include all the features of claim 10 from which they depend. Claims 14 and 17 include all the features of claim 11 from which they depend. Claims 15 and 18 include all the features of claim 12 from which they depend. Thus, claims 2-4, 6, 9 and 13-18 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

DK/dk/ds

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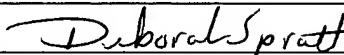
P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980  
(610) 407-0700

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Deborah Spratt



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